

An organic electroluminescent device is provided that includes an anode and a substantially pure Mg cathode, an electroluminescent medium disposed between the anode and the cathode, and an adhesion-promoting layer in contact with cathode and the electroluminescent medium. The adhesion-promoting layer comprises at least one metal or metal compound selected from group 1 through group 15 of the Periodic Table of Elements such that the metal has an atomic number of at least 19.